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and in a pond near Denver, Colorado. Some peculiarities in the pistillate flowers were also pointed out."

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

At a dinner for botanists given by the Missouri Botanical Garden during the St. Louis meeting two rather unusual vegetables were served. *Dasheen en cassorole* and *Arracacha*. The latter is a Venezuelan plant, *Arracacia xanthorrhiza*, introduced through the Foreign Seed and Plant Introduction Office at Washington, and said to be the first grown in the United States and served at a public banquet. The dasheen is *Colocasia esculenta*, a more familiar plant, grown commercially from South Carolina to Florida and Texas, but not yet widely known near New York.

The Ecological Society of America elected the following officers at the Christmas meetings. *President*, Barrington Moore; *Vice-President*, G. E. Nichols; and *Secretary-Treasurer*, A. O. Weese. The president was reelected and, after a several month's trip to the Southwest and California, will be at 925 Park Avenue, N. Y. after March 27.

Dr. R. M. Harper, after a short visit to New York, has returned to Alabama. His address until further notice will be University, Ala.

Dr. B. E. Livingston, of Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed Permanent Secretary of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He will retain his position at the University and spend one or two days a week at Washington.

Mr. Robert Cushman Murphy has just returned from the islands off the coast of Peru. While most of his material is zoological he collected all the flowering plants known from the islands. Some are absolute deserts, a few with only lichens and mosses, others with as many as 15 flowering plants. One island contains a fringe of a single beach species along the coast, then for 1000 feet in elevation nothing but bare rock and soil, and finally a single specimen of an Acacia-like tree, not over 3 feet high. The specimens from these unique islands have been presented to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.